

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein, as outlined in Appendix A, attached herewith.

REMARKS

Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 1-10 will be pending in the present application. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment of claim 1 does not add any new matter within the meaning of 35 USC §132.

1. Objections to claims 1 and 6 because of informalities

The Official Action states that claim 1 is objected to because of improper grammar. In particular, claim 1, line 5 recites "and rubber polymer." Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 has been amended to recite "and a rubber polymer." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this objection to claim 1.

Claim 6 is also objected to because the features recited in claim 6 are also found in claim 5. However, Applicants respectfully note that this objection to claim 6 is improper, because claim 6 is narrower than claim 5. Accordingly,